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LOUIS H. JOUTEL.

BY WM. T. DAVIS,

NEW BRIGHTON, STATEN ISLAND, N. Y.

More than half a century ago a number of families from France settled a short distance north of the Delaware River, in Delaware County, New York, at what was subsequently called French Woods, and there, on August 19, 1858, Louis Hippolyte Joutel was born. A little later his family removed to New York City, where he attended public school; then the art school in Cooper Union, and being an exceptionally good observer he picked up considerable knowledge about a number of subjects. For about thirty-five years he lived in the house at 164 East 117th St. In early days the surroundings were much more rural, but the great city gradually became densely built over and the population about his home more and more crowded. The garden, however, in which he and his sister took such a keen interest, remained the same, or there were only those small changes brought about by the planting of more trees, the foliage of which was to serve as food for many broods of caterpillars. This garden was small, for the house stood on but a city lot, yet it contained a greenhouse, where cacti in particular were grown, also beds of flowers and about twenty small forest trees that with characteristic ingenuity had been strapped to the fence and were from time to time skillfully pruned to keep them within bounds. Here in this garden he and his sister carried on many experiments; numerous species of moths were reared and even crossed, some of the hybrids being remarkable

for their intermediate characters. In summer there were a number of aquaria in the garden and no pains were spared to rear gold fish of fantastic forms, and as many other species as would survive in so confined an area as a big glass jar or a tank.

From this interesting home many excursions were made to Bronx Park, Fort Lee and other nearby places in New Jersey, to Staten Island and to Long Island, in search of specimens. Sometimes it was for insects, but often for plants and fish for the aquaria, in fact for anything in nature that appeared interesting and unusual.

Many excursions were made to collect material in aid of his work, for Mr. Joutel was one of the most skillful natural history artists in America, and his knowledge of insects and their habits was a great asset in connection with his artistic work. His illustrations are well known. They will be found in some of Dr. Alpheus S. Packard's works, such as his *Monograph of the Bombycine Moths of North America*, in the reports of Dr. Ephraim P. Felt, state entomologist of New York; in some of the reports of the New Jersey state entomologist, in the *Bulletins of the American Museum of Natural History* and in many other publications devoted to entomology. Mr. Joutel was an illustrator for Harper and Brothers for a number of years, but when able, relinquished his work as a general illustrator and devoted himself to natural history subjects. This gave him a chance to investigate; to go afield in connection with his work, and before ill health prevented, he was active in rearing many kinds of insects, as well as fish, frogs, etc. He even raised some land or box turtles in his little garden. Facts of interest in connection with his entomological investigations were often presented at the meetings of the New York Entomological Society up to the year 1910. At the meeting of April 20, 1897, he exhibited about fifty species of beetles, mostly Longicorns that had been bred by him, and throughout the early published proceedings of the Society there is much information contributed by Mr. Joutel.

In the summer of 1903 Mr. Joutel was ill and later had pneumonia. Though he seemed at the time to recover from this attack, his illness gradually developed into consumption, but at his age the progress of the disease was not very rapid. No one was a better judge of his condition than he, not even the several doctors that examined him, and his shrewd observations on the matter, as indeed

on many other things, was what often made a call on Mr. Joutel so interesting. He would point out some nice little differences in the insects he had lately examined, show you a cactus that had been skillfully grafted, or make some comical comments about himself. He certainly was most ingenious and had the ability to look at things, himself included, from several points of view. As to his skill in mechanical accomplishment, it may be stated that he decided to change the heating plant in his home, so he bought the materials and installed a hot water system, doing all the work himself. He said it was good exercise, for part of the day he would be sitting all too quietly drawing insects for Prof. Packard or Dr. Felt.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Joutel did not publish more of his observations, especially on white ants, of which he gave several interesting accounts to the New York Entomological Society. In July, 1903, he wrote in a letter: "I had a sad accident happen to my white ants. The cats had a fight among the jars and the whole thing was destroyed. I spent the morning looking over the debris for a few pairs and found two, so I will have to start fresh. I cut up the logs I brought home and was fortunate to find an old queen in one and she is now laying lots of eggs. She is about so long ———, and does not seem able to walk alone, but with the help of the workers she moves about from one place to another."

It has often been said that the Monograph of the Genus *Saperda* by Dr. Felt and Mr. Joutel was a model of its kind and in the preface to that work it is stated that "the junior author has undertaken the illustrations and systematic study of the species." His part in this work was probably his chief contribution to entomology, but his many fine plates drawn for Dr. Packard's monographs must not be forgotten in this connection.

Mr. Joutel was recording secretary of the New York Entomological Society from 1894 to 1897; treasurer from 1898 to 1903, and also served on many of the standing committees. The Society never had a better member; one who was more willing to do his best for its welfare. He passed away September 6, 1916, and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York.

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In the published Proceedings of the New York Entomological Society are to be found many contributions by Mr. Joutel, the most important of which are as follows:

Exhibition of *Leptura emarginata* found ovipositing in the branch of a white oak; meeting, October 1, 1895.

Notes on the life history of species of *Saperda* and *Goes*; meeting, Nov. 19, 1895.

Exhibition of *Cyllene pictus* and its borings in hickory; meeting, March 3, 1896.

Exhibition of the cruel plant, *Physianthus albens*, with insects hanging from the flowers; meetings, October 6 and 20, 1896.

On the breeding habits of beetles and exhibition of specimens; meeting, April 20, 1897.

On the protective habit of *Cotalpa lanigera* in drawing the edges of the leaves together; meeting, January 4, 1898.

Ceruchus piceus in decayed white birch; meeting, February 15, 1898.

Variety of *Spilosoma latipennis* with yellow forelegs; meeting, October 4, 1898.

Crioceris 13-punctata on Long Island, N. Y., and *Callida punctata* in Bronx Park; meeting, October 3, 1899.

Exhibition of all of the described species of *Saperda*; meeting, February 4, 1902.

The ear-wig, *Anisolabia maritima*, common along the East River under rubbish; meeting, March 4, 1902.

Exhibition of reared specimens of *Hydroecia appassionata*, a rare moth; meeting, October 21, 1902.

Exhibition of *Yama-mai* moths showing variations in color; meeting, January 20, 1903.

Food habits of *Goes pulverulenta*; meeting, April 7, 1903.

On the stridulation of *Cychnus viduus*, meeting, October 6, 1903.

Exhibition of species of *Saperda* from North America, Europe and Asia; meeting, December 4, 1904.



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Observations on white ants; meeting, December 19, 1905.

North American forms of the genus *Strategus*; meeting, December 18, 1906.

Exhibition of pamphlet by Spinola, 1839, wherein are described and figured a few species of peculiar Coleoptera; meeting, January 15, 1907.

The Ptinid beetle, *Gibbium scotias*, collected by Wm. T. Davis in the New York Produce Exchange; meeting, April 2, 1907.

Exhibition of *Cynthia* and *Promethea* moth hybrids with remarks on the same; meeting, May 21, 1907.

Some curious results of the crossing of *Cynthia* and *Promethea* moths and some interesting variations of *Cynthia*; meeting, November 19, 1907.

Differences in the color of adult moths affected by feeding the caterpillars in the dark; meeting, March 3, 1908.

On the habits of the white ant, *Termes flavipes*; meeting, October 19, 1909.

A Scarabaeid new to Long Island, *Trichius texanus* Horn, collected by Mr. Engelhardt; meeting, March 15, 1910.

Thelydrias contractus difficult to kill with bisulphide of carbon; meeting, May 3, 1910.

BIOLOGICAL NOTES ON CEUTORHYNCHUS MARGINATUS PAYKULL (COL.).¹

By S. W. FROST.

ITHACA, N. Y.

During the past season the writer found the larvæ of a small beetle feeding on the ovules and seeds of the dandelion. This insect attracted much attention, for little seemed to be known about it. Specimens were sent to C. W. Leng, who identified them as *Ceutorhynchus marginatus* Payk., a European species heretofore unknown to America. The abundance of the insect, its interesting habits, and undoubted economic importance induced the writer to make a study of its life history.

At this point the writer wishes to express his thanks to Dr. Robert Matheson who has assisted greatly in correcting and arranging this paper.

HISTORICAL.

From an examination of the European literature it appeared that very little was known of the life history and habits of this beetle. It

¹ Contribution from the Entomological Laboratory of Cornell University.